

## NOTICE OF SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing is scheduled before the City Council's Public Safety, Governmental Relations, and Arts Committee on Tuesday, April 18, 2006 at 5:30 PM in the City Council Chamber, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, City Hall, 600 Fourth Avenue. For those who wish to testify, a sign-up sheet will be available outside the Council Chamber one-half hour before the public hearing. Questions concerning the public hearing may be directed to Lisa Herbold in Council President Nick Licata's office, by calling (206) 684-5331 or via email at [lisa.herbold@seattle.gov](mailto:lisa.herbold@seattle.gov).

Police accountability means many things to many people. This hearing is not intended to be a venue for testifying about more general public safety issues such as a) the need for additional neighborhood patrol staffing, b) neighborhood watch groups' needs for better access to data about local crime trends, or c) individual complaints. If you have an interest in issues like these, you can contact Council President Licata's office to find out what meetings are scheduled for input.

For purposes of this hearing, the PSGRA Committee members want to hear what Seattle citizens think about the City's approach to:

- "Provide for citizen oversight of the citizen complaint process;
- Promote public awareness of and full access to that process; and
- Advance reforms that increase police accountability to the public by the Seattle Police Department."

The City will be beginning contract negotiations with the Seattle Police Officers Guild (SPOG) soon. Some aspects of police accountability must be bargained with SPOG. Labor negotiations are very different from the usual legislative process and are confidential. Labor negotiations do not allow for public involvement. It is important to hear from the public regarding their thoughts, concerns and issues on the subject of police accountability before the City begins negotiations with the SPOG.

If you'd like to find out for yourself what represents the current agreement between the City and SPOG about police accountability you can read the current SPOG contract online at:

<http://www.seattle.gov/personnel/resources/agreements.asp>

If you still want more background, the Office of Professional Accountability has a website here:

<http://www.seattle.gov/police/OPA/default.htm>

The Office of Professional Accountability Review Board has its website here:

<http://www.seattle.gov/council/oparb/>

If you'd like to learn more about the city labor relations policy and the laws governing it, contact, Lisa Herbold in Council President Nick Licata's office, by calling (206) 684-5331 or via email at [lisa.herbold@seattle.gov](mailto:lisa.herbold@seattle.gov) and ask for a copy of *City Labor Relations Policy - Frequently Asked Questions*.

The City Council Chamber is accessible. Print and communications access is provided on prior request. Please contact Councilmember Licata's office at (206) 684-5331 as soon as possible to request accommodation for a disability.

### Written Comments

For those unable to attend the public hearing, comments will be accepted through April 30, 2006. Please email your comments to [lisa.herbold@seattle.gov](mailto:lisa.herbold@seattle.gov) or fax your comments to Councilmember Licata's office at (206) 233-0054, or mail comments to:

**Council President Nick Licata, Chair**  
**Public Safety, Governmental Relations and Arts Committee**  
**Seattle City Council**  
**P.O. Box 34025**  
**Seattle, WA 98124-4025**